SCRAP IT DUMPSTER

The Estate Cleanout Checklist:
A Compassionate Guide for Families

Practical steps to help you sort, donate, and clear a loved one's home with less stress.

Clearing out a loved one's home is never just a logistics task. It's an emotional process that takes time, patience, and a plan. This checklist is here to help you move through it one step at a time, so you can focus on what matters and let the details fall into place.

1 BEFORE YOU BEGIN

- ☐ Set a realistic timeline, don't rush a process tied to grief
- ☐ Gather family members or trusted helpers for support and decision making
- ☐ Locate important documents first (wills, deeds, financial records, insurance papers)
- ☐ Take photos of the home and belongings before sorting begins
- ☐ Decide who has final say on disputed items ahead of time

2 SORTING ROOM BY ROOM

- ☐ **Keep:** items with sentimental or monetary value, documents, jewelry, family heirlooms
- ☐ **Donate:** gently used furniture, clothing, and household goods
- ☐ **Sell:** valuable furniture, collectibles, vehicles, or antiques
- ☐ **Recycle:** metal items, electronics, appliances
- ☐ **Dispose:** broken furniture, damaged goods, expired items, general debris

3 WHERE A DUMPSTER FITS IN

- ☐ Renting a dumpster early prevents the "pile up" problem in the garage or yard
- ☐ One container keeps debris contained and out of the way of ongoing sorting
- ☐ Saves multiple trips to the dump during an already exhausting process
- ☐ Helps when preparing the home for sale or handoff to new owners

4 WHAT NOT TO TOSS

- ☐ Paint, chemicals, and cleaning supplies (check local hazardous waste rules)
- ☐ **Tires** (require separate recycling, not standard dumpster disposal)
- ☐ Propane tanks and batteries
- ☐ Anything with informational documents still attached (shred first)

5 A GENTLE REMINDER

Take breaks. Ask for help. It's okay to move slowly through the parts that hold memories. This process is about honoring a life, not just clearing a house.

When you're ready to move forward, Scrap It Dumpster is here to make the physical part easier. Read our full guide on estate cleanout planning, or reach out to schedule a residential dumpster for your project.

SCRAP IT DUMPSTER
863-330-6620
scrapitdumpster.com
1248 George Jenkins Blvd
Suite B, Lakeland, FL 33815